



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

PRESS RELEASE

T – 05 – 08
Maureen F. Gorsen, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 24, 2008

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DTSC CLEARS PATH FOR RANCHO CORDOVA DEVELOPMENT *Former Aerojet site released for Rio Del Oro project*

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) has authorized the release of one of the largest parcels of Aerojet land to date for return to productive use.

The McDonnell Douglas-Inactive Rancho Cordova Test Site is a former aerospace testing facility, used primarily as a buffer zone for the rocket testing done between 1956 and 1972. Aerojet parent company GenCorp, Inc. is planning a mixed-use real estate project on the 2,300 acre site comprised of open space and residential and commercial uses. DTSC has been working with Aerojet on the site since 1994.

“We’re very pleased to see this portion of the Aerojet land released for productive use, particularly since it is closer to Sacramento,” said DTSC Director Maureen F. Gorsen. “We have seen so much green space taken up for development up into the foothills and elsewhere around Sacramento that this project, just miles from the city center, is a refreshing change. While our mission hinges on protecting public health and the environment, we are also keenly interested in helping communities realize economic benefit from clean-up activities,” she added. Aerojet’s planned project is expected to significantly boost the local economy.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control is the state’s lead agency for ensuring that the 2,300-acre parcel has been thoroughly evaluated and cleaned to the highest safety specifications and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm. One part of this parcel was contaminated with dioxins, furans and several heavy metals from non-aerospace trash burning; DTSC oversaw the completion of the cleanup for that eight-acre portion of the site.

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov. To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.